

REMARKS

Claims 13, 15-20, 23-28 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-12, 14, 21-22 are canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112

As set forth in the advisory action, the rejection of the claims 13, 15-20, and 24-28 under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, has been overcome.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 13, 15, 16, 25, 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Huckriede et al. (US 6,010.004)*.

In view of examiner's remarks in the advisory action, claim 13 now sets forth that:

"the strap handle is comprised of a first end and a second end, the first and second ends glued or attached by a heat seal seam to the first face of the support patch, and further comprised of a handle loop part that extends from said first end to said second end, wherein said handle loop part with its entire length from said first end to said second end rests flat without being folded on the support patch".

It is now clearly set forth that the entire loop handle part that extend from first glued or attached end to second glued or attached end rests with its entire length flat and without being folded on the support patch.

Huckriede et al. shows that the handle loop part has a portion that is folded at 29. Therefore, parts of the handle loop portion may extend flat without being folded, but not the entire handle loop part extending between the ends rests flat and without being folded on the patch.

Claim 13 as amended is also not obvious in view of *Huckriede et al.* because the configuration of the loop part with extra material provided in the fold is a necessity in *Huckriede et al.* as the perforation 36 for accessing the loop part is at the corner between top side and lateral side and extends transverse to the loop part extension so that extra material must be provided in order to allow gripping of the handle.

Claim 13 as amended is therefore not anticipated by *Huckriede et al.* and should be allowable together with its dependent claims.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 17-20, 24, 26, 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Huckriede et al.* (US 6,010,004). Claims 17-20, 24, 26, 27 are believed to be allowable as dependent claims of claim 13.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 23 is allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on September 30, 2009,

/Gudrun E. Huckett/

Ms. Gudrun E. Huckett, Ph.D.
Patent Agent, Registration No. 35,747
Schubertstr. 15a
42289 Wuppertal, GERMANY
Telephone: +49-202-257-0371
US-Fax: (877) 470-9712
gudrun.draudt@t-online.de

GEH